

Amendments to the Claims

Please **cancel claims 1-11** without prejudice.

Please **add claims 12-30** as follows:

12. (New) A water treatment device comprising:

at least two discharge lamps for photo-chemically treating water;

a first electrical circuit disposed in the immediate vicinity of the discharge lamps and electrically connected to the discharge lamps, wherein the first electrical circuit is configured to control a warm up phase of the discharge lamps; and

a second electrical circuit disposed remotely from the discharge lamps and electrically connected to the first electrical circuit, wherein the second electrical circuit is configured to control an operational phase of the discharge lamps.

13. (New) The water treatment device of claim 12 wherein at least two of the two or more discharge lamps are connected in series.

14. (New) The water treatment device of claim 12 wherein at least two of the two or more discharge lamps are connected in parallel.

15. (New) The water treatment device of claim 12 wherein the first electrical circuit comprises at least one capacitor electrically connected to at least one transformer.

16. (New) The water treatment device of claim 12 wherein the first electrical circuit is disposed immediately adjacent to the discharge lamps.

17. (New) The water treatment device of claim 12 wherein the discharge lamps comprise ultraviolet discharge lamps.

18. (New) The water treatment device of claim 12 wherein the discharge lamps comprise mercury vapor discharge lamps.

19. (New) The water treatment device of claim 12 wherein the first electrical circuit generates a voltage control signal, and wherein the voltage control signal controls the warm up phase of the discharge lamps.

20. (New) The water treatment device of claim 12 wherein the first electrical circuit generates a current control signal, and wherein the current control signal controls the warm up phase of the discharge lamps.

21. (New) A method of photo-chemically treating water with two or more discharge lamps, the method comprising:

controlling a warm up phase associated with the two or more discharge lamps with a first electrical circuit disposed in the immediate vicinity of the discharge lamps; and
controlling an operational phase associated with the two or more discharge lamps with a second electrical circuit disposed remotely from the discharge lamps.

22. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the two or more discharge lamps are connected in series.

23. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the two or more discharge lamps are connected in parallel.

24. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the two or more discharge lamps comprise two or more ultraviolet discharge lamps.

25. (New) A water treatment device comprising:

two or more ultraviolet discharge lamps;

a first electrical circuit disposed a first distance from the ultraviolet discharge lamps,

wherein the first electrical circuit is configured to control a warm up phase of the discharge lamps; and

a second electrical circuit disposed a second distance from the ultraviolet discharge

lamps, wherein the second distance is greater than the first distance, and

wherein the second electrical circuit is configured to control an operational phase of the discharge lamps.

26. (New) The water treatment device of claim 25 wherein the first distance comprises a relatively small distance, and wherein the second distance comprises a relatively large distance.

27. (New) The water treatment device of claim 26 wherein the first distance is generally less than 0.5 meters, and wherein the second distance is generally greater than 2 meters.

28. (New) The water treatment device of claim 25 wherein the first and second electrical circuits are separated by at least 1.5 meters.

29. (New) The water treatment device of claim 25 wherein at least two of the two or more ultraviolet discharge lamps are connected in series.

30. (New) The water treatment device of claim 25 wherein at least two of the two or more ultraviolet discharge lamps are connected in parallel.